

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 /074 W  
----- 075194 /16

R 210330Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7383  
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 34166

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH  
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES PRAPHAT WILL NOT BE ARRESTED  
IF HE RETURNS

REF: A) BANGKOK 33285, B) BANGKOK 34085

1. PRIME MINISTER THANIN KRAIWICHIAN TOLD THE PRESS ON DECEMBER 20 THAT FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FIELD MARSHAL PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIAN WILL NOT RPT NOT BE ARRESTED IF HE RETURNS TO THAILAND. THANIN SAID THAT PRAPHAT WILL NOT BE ARRESTED BECAUSE THE PROSECUTION DEPT. HAS ALREADY RECOMMENDED THAT NO CRIMINAL CHARGES BE FILED AGAINST HIM FOR LACK OF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE THAT HE ORDERED SHOOTING OF PARTICIPANTS DURING THE UPRISING OF OCTOBER 14, 1973. THANIN SAID, "WHY HE IS RETURNING IS PURELY HIS OWN BUSINESS. I HAVE TOLD THE INTERIOR MINISTER AND THE POLICE DIRECTOR-GENERAL NOT RPT NOT TO WELCOME HIM AS A VIP BUT TO TREAT HIM JUST AS ANY OTHER ORDINARY CITIZEN."

2. AS REPORTED IN REF A THE POLICE, AFTER REVIEWING THE EVIDENCE, COULD FILE CHARGES AGAINST  
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PRAPHAT. IT WOULD THEN BE UP TO THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE TO DECIDE WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH THE CASE.

3. COMMENT - THIS IS THE MOST EXPLICIT PUBLIC STATEMENT BY A RANKING GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL THAT PRAPHAT NEED HAVE NO FEAR OF ARREST IF HE RETURNS

TO THAILAND. IT CLEARLY PAVES THE WAY FOR HIS  
RETURN, PROBABLY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (SEE REF. B).  
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPATRIATION, ARRESTS, POLITICAL LEADERS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BANGKO34166  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760467-1035  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761222/aaaaasqy.tel  
**Line Count:** 64  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 BANGKOK 33285, 76 BANGKOK 34085  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 MAY 2004  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES PRAPHAT WILL NOT BE ARRESTED IF HE RETURNS  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, TH, (THANIN KRAIWICHIAN), (PARAPHAT CHARUSATHIAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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